18: Meiner--184 G-S (1896-ca.1908) 1910 PL12 Masai PL12

/134 cont./

151 proved by the fact that they prepare the ground plan of the huts, the
[80 4] wire spirals and wire rings serving for adornment, etc., without
mechanical measuring devices. For the same reason one recognizes
their sense of symmetry in their weapons.

151 Following the Holmgren zephyr-yarn procedure, I examined 87
125 Masai, and, to be sure, 46 men and 41 women, on their sense of
color. The test showed that of all only one man had "weak color
sense," all the others, on the other hand, had "normal color sense."
[122] Here too the symbolic significance of the colors should be considered:
black = calm seriousness, red (blood) = war, green = peace, variegated,
and, to be sure, especially in the combination of red and white,
expresses joy, gaiety, but also frivolity and fickleness.

Photographs of objects known by them they perceived correctly,
those of persons known by them not at once, but always only after
longer observation. Often the perspective foreshortening of an object
in the photograph was incomprehensible to them; they regarded such a
one as incomplete.

153 Their powers of orientation in the region and their memory for
151 paths once taken or stretches of land traversed are excellent. Their
memory for numbers seems to be better than that of most tribes in the
153 interior of East Africa, since, unlike the latter, they do not use
[102 mechanical aids such as notches in sticks, knots in string, etc. Their
[211] power of conceiving numbers does not seem to go beyond five; only a
few could recognize at a glance the correct number of more than five
objects placed before them.

• 53 Their feeling for plastic art is shown by the rich and not unhand-
619 some adornment, the handsome forms of their weapons, the painting
of the shields, the decoration with cowrie shells and beads on utilitar-
ian objects and clothing. Representational art is unknown to them. A
feeling for music is completely lacking; their singing is arbitrary and
without rules, the main thing in it is the text and the alternation in the
vocal execution. They do not have musical instruments, for the ante-
lope horn of the summoner to legal proceedings serves only to arouse
the attention of the people through loud noises. The following is a
533 common song to accompany the dance (1):

1. Recorded by Herr Malmgren /wall physician/
Dr. Hendrikx.